

### **Housing Resources**

DHS is committed to ensuring that youths transitioning from the foster care system have safe and affordable housing. To reach this goal, the department is developing diverse opportunities for housing. This includes federal funding options through grant applications to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); revising contracts to expand housing options through the Homeless Youth and Runaway (HYR) programs. The HYR contracts, effective in January 2009, required that contractors ensure that 25 percent of the homeless youths served in transitional living were former foster youths. The housing resource analyst has directed the efforts at developing community partnerships through meetings and presentations.

DHS will make referrals to HYR contractors using the DHS-956 for youth age 18 and older without identified housing.

### **Transitional Living Program (TLP)/Supportive Housing**

- Provides long-term residential services to homeless youth ages 18 and older without housing. Generally, the contractor limits residential services to not more than 18 months, but an additional 180 days may be provided to youth less than 18 years old.
- Residential services will include, but are not limited to stable, safe, living accommodations and services that help eligible youth develop the skills necessary to move to independence. The contractor provides living accommodations.
- Additional services communication skills (boundaries), community involvement, decision making, disabilities, employment, food/nutrition, income, engagement in services, family relations, health care, housing, legal, life skills, mental health, parenting skills, peer conflict & relationship, pregnancy, safety, school, sexual health, stress management, substance use/abuse and transportation.

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